

CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT

◆ What We Will Discuss

- Who, What and Why of Capabilities Assessment
- What's In It For YOU (Localities)
- What Do ALL Those Terms Mean?
- What Do I Do NOW?
- What About Other Questions?

What is a Capabilities Assessment?

- ◆ A Capability Assessment leads Virginia through an analysis of the priority capabilities drawn from the Target Capabilities List (TCL).
- ◆ By examining current capability levels Virginia will be able to identify key strengths and gap analysis to improve our homeland security program.

Who Completes The Capabilities Assessment?

- ◆ Local government: 134 localities.
- ◆ Each locality may have different individuals answer questions in different sections and then submit a single assessment response.
- ◆ For example, police/fire chief and emergency managers may get together to complete the majority of the assessment.

Why Should We Complete a Capabilities Assessment?

- ◆ Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requirement for continuing grant funds.
- ◆ Information will
 - Impact grant priorities
 - Serve as a program evaluation guideline
 - Provide the context for a new 2008 Enhancement Plan and updated Virginia Homeland Security Strategy

Why Don't We Use an Existing or National Assessment Tool?

- ◆ The Target Capabilities exist..guidance on how to develop our own assessment exist... but...
- ◆ No national tool exists that captures the priorities set by DHS.
- ◆ Other states have used DHS guidance to create their own..and we are adopting the tools and ideas that worked best for them.

Why Are We Being Asked for Input Into the Instrument Design?

- ◆ This information has many uses:
 - Homeland Security program evaluation.
 - Setting the framework for the next three years of grant priorities.
 - Identifying opportunities for locality partnership or regional collaboration.

Examples of How Data May Be Used

- ◆ Identifies a need in one or more regions:
 - addressing this need may rise to the top for a coordinated approach or funding.
- ◆ Identifies a county without equipment but the equipment in all surrounding counties:
 - may result in a Mutual Aid Agreement.
- ◆ Identifies a need in a single region AND is a priority to have complete coverage statewide:
 - may result in a grant submission.

How Will Localities Know About This?

- ◆ OCP and VDEM are working through the locality Emergency Managers, Fire & Police Associations, Virginia Municipal League and Virginia Association of Counties.
- ◆ Please let us know if you recommend an additional group or organization.

What About Citizens? Businesses? Other Groups?

- ◆ Everyone and anyone is welcome to provide input into the Survey Design through the Questionnaire.
- ◆ However the actual Capability Assessment will be completed by the locality.
- ◆ This survey may change over time to include additional assessment components designed for citizens, business or other groups.
- ◆ This first Capability Assessment will provide Virginia the MINIMUM information to establish a baseline – future expansion is expected.

How Do We Contribute to the Design?

- ◆ We have created a Survey Design Questionnaire that includes a draft of the core questions for the instrument.
- ◆ You complete this survey and return it to the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness.

What Are the Timelines?

- ◆ Submit your comments using the Survey Design Questionnaire – through June 1st.
- ◆ Develop, distribute and complete the Capability Assessment – June – September.
- ◆ Data analysis and dissemination – October
- ◆ Grant planning....November forward.

I Don't Understand All the Jargon!

- ◆ Definitions of most of the jargon can be found on the DHS/FEMA Office of Grants & Training website.
- ◆ However the survey we are asking you to complete includes the definitions for each item.
- ◆ For example....

What is a Target Capability?

- ◆ Target Capabilities = Essential capabilities that should be developed and maintained by local and state government in order to prevent, prepare, respond and recovery from an incident.

What are Examples of Target Capabilities?

◆ Target Capabilities *(we must assess these)*

- Intelligence/Information Sharing
- Law Enforcement Investigations
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Detection
- Explosive Device Response
- Weapons of Mass Destruction Response
- Medical Surge
- Mass Prophylaxis
- Interoperable Communications

How Do We Assess These?

- ◆ Each Target Capability is assessed under a specific scenario or type of incident.
- ◆ DHS has provided 15 scenarios from which we can select 3-5 for our assessment.
- ◆ YOU can pick 3 scenarios on this survey design questionnaire OR describe you own scenario.

Are There Other Target Capabilities to Consider?

- ◆ Yes...the Part 3 of our Survey Design Questionnaire allows YOU to select up to eight (8) additional capabilities to assess...
- ◆ For example, Critical Infrastructure or Risk Management or Citizen Preparedness or (*see Part 3*).
- ◆ Or describe a new capability you feel needs to be assessed.

So What Do We Do NOW?

- ◆ By June 1 – complete the Survey Design Questionnaire (OCP website).
- ◆ Ask your LOCAL GOVERNMENT Fire and Police Chiefs, Emergency Manager and others to complete the Survey Design Questionnaire.
- ◆ The most input we get...the better!

Where Do We Get the Information?

- ◆ OCP's Grants Coordination web page links to the Capabilities Assessment information and the Survey Design Questionnaire.
- ◆ The information on this site will change as we move through the timelines for the Capability Assessment.

<http://www.ocp.virginia.gov/Initiatives/GrantsCoordination.cfm>

(note...the Capabilities Assessment link will be active AFTER April 6, 2007)

What About Other Comments or Questions?

- ◆ We want your ideas, concerns, comments on ANYTHING from the three parts of the Survey Design Questionnaire to whatever you want to share.
- ◆ For example.....

MORE IDEAS!!!

- ◆ Who do you feel will best represent the locality in completing this assessment?
(*Fire Chief? Police Chief? Co. Administrator?*)
- ◆ What concerns do you have about completing this capability assessment?
- ◆ What information should we provide to help localities complete the final Capabilities Assessment?

Questions?

- ◆ Call OCP at 804-225-3826

- *(Davis Walsh or Susan Mongold)*

- ◆ Fax OCP at 804-225-3882

- ◆ Write OCP at

- P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

- ◆ Email us via our website at

- <http://www.ocp.virginia.gov/OfficeInfo/contactForm.cfm>